Construction of women's hostels

20. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of working women's hostels which have been constructed with Central assistance;

(b) what is the number of women who have got accommodation therein;

(c) what was the cost, per hostel, with State-wise breakup; and

(d) who were the sponsors/organisers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) and (b) Assistance has been provided for construction of 466 Working Women's Hostels to provide accommodation to 29,468 working women (inclusive of Day-care centre facilities for 3603 children in 132 hostels) so far since the inception of the Scheme in 1972-73.

(c) The cost of a Project varies from place to place, time to time and depends on its in-take capacity. The rates of construction are certified by State PWD|CPWD authorities before sanctioning of the project.

(d) Under the Scheme, assistance is provided to the extent of 50 per cent of the cost of land and 75 per cent of the cost of construction or purchase of ready-constructed building to voluntary organisations registered under the Indian Societies Registration Act, 1860 or corresponding State Acts, registered Public Trusts, Local Bodies; Women Development Corporations; Universities; Schools and Colleges of Social Work. Applications are scrutinised and recommended by the State Government/ Union Territory Administration, concerned.

Increase in the incidence of leprosy

21. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that incidence of leprosy is on the increase; if so, what is the rate of its growth;

(b) what is the total number of patients identified and their per centage to the total population, Statewise;

(c) whether Government have any plans to eradicate leprosy; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof stating financial allocations, curative and preventive aspects, rehabilitation in socio-economic life?

THE MINISTER OF HEATLH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI MOTI LAL VORA): (a) There is no evidence to show that incidence of leprosy is on increase.

(b) A statement-I is laid on the table of the Sabha. (*See* below)

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) A statement-II is enclosed. (*See* below)